

May 27, 2004

Scott Whitney, Compliance Officer
Drinking Water Program
Department of Human Services
State House Station #10
Augusta, ME 04333-0010

RE: DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Request for Consultation Regarding
The Transport of Bulk Water
With Nestle Waters North America
Docket No: 2004-264

Dear Mr. Whitney,

On April 16, 2004, you requested Public Utilities Commission (PUC) review of the application of Nestle Waters North America Water for authorization, pursuant to 22 M.R.S.A. §2660- A(3), to transport water for commercial purposes. That statute requires that your office consult with the PUC and other agencies before authorizing commercial transport of water beyond the municipality in which it occurs naturally. This letter constitutes the PUC's assessment of whether Nestle Waters North America Waters' Pierce Pond Township proposal would "constitute a threat to public health, safety, or welfare" in regard to its effect on any public water utility.

Our Staff reviewed the Nestle Waters' Pierce Pond Township proposal to determine whether the proposed withdrawal of water would have any adverse effect on the public water utilities in the area. There are no public water utilities in the area of the Pierce Pond Township spring, thus the transport of water from Nestle Waters' Pierce Pond Township spring will not constitute a threat to public health, safety, or welfare in regard to its effect on any public water utility. The public utility component of the waiver process should be reviewed, to ensure circumstances have not changed, each time the authorization is renewed.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have questions regarding the public water utility impact of the Nestle Waters' application.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

cc: Stephani Morancie